and private sector, under the over view of a Regulator. The Pipeline Policy aims to encourage competition, efficiency and greater investment in this sector, all of which will ultimately benefit the consumer and the economy in general. Specific attention is proposed to be paid to equitable regional distribution.

Allotment of LPG agencies to dependents of martyrs

2020. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide gas agencies, petrol pump" agencies to the war-widows and dependents of martyrs;

(b) if so, the criteria in this regard;

(c) the number of application received during each of the last five years, till date in this regard;

(d) whether gas agency/petrol pump agency has been granted to all the applicants, so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any complaints have been received in this regard so far and if so, the details thereof and whether these complaints have been redressed suitably; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) Government has two schemes for allotment of dealerships/distributorships to, among others was widows and dependants of martyrs as under:

(i) A one time special scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/ LPG distributorships to widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'Operation Vijay" (Kargil).

(ii) A discretionary Quota of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships/ SKO-LDO dealerships, on genuine compassionate grounds, to the deserving persons in the following two categories:-

(a) Dependants of Defence/Paramilitary/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated;

(b) Dependants of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

In the case of the special scheme, referred to in para (i) above, allotments are made on the basis of recommendations received from the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence. 461 retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships have been allotted under this scheme so far.

With regard to the discretionary quota of the Government, out of more than 1800 applications received so far, allotment has been made in respect of 51 cases.

In addition, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have provided for reservation of 8% each for Defence personnel and Paramilitary/Police/ Government personnel in their Dealer/Distributor Selection Guidelines.

(f) and (g) No complaints regarding the allotments made under the Special Scheme and the Discretionary Quota have been received, though representations for expediting such cases are received from time to time. Complaints received in connection with regular selections made by the OMCs are dealt with in accordance with the grievance redressal mechanism provided for in the Guidelines.

Supply of CNG in Andhra Pradesh

2021. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC/GAIL have drawn up any comprehensive action plan to supply CNG to different parts of Andhra Pradesh from Krishna-Godavari basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) M/s GAIL (India) Ltd. (GAIL) and